The Chicago Tribune.

VOL. 24. CHICAGO, SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 1871—WITH SUPPLEMENT. NO. 158.

SPRINGFIELD.

A Lull in the Senatorial Fight.

The Campaign Against Logan to be Renewed with Vigor on Monday.

Senate Resolution to Investigate the Delay in Railway Freight-Transfers.

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Favorable Criticisms on Vinnie Ream's Statue of Lincoln.

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THE BOMBARDMENT OF PARIS.

THE INVESTMENT OF METZ.

THE SURRENDER OF STRASBURG.

THE DEFENSE OF BELFORT.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF PERONNE.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTMEDY.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTALBAN.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTMELIAN.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTROUGE.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTMARTRE.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTFAUCON.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTVALERIEN.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTSOURIS.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF MONTPARNASSE

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 1871.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR CITIES.

The present Legislature will have the important and delicate duty to perform of providing by general laws for the government of cities. Fortunately, this matter is no longer an experiment, but has been in successful operation in other States for several years.

The plan will embrace forms of government for cities of two or three classes, according to their respective populations. These general laws will be in the nature of municipal constitutions, making general grants of power, and imposing general and specific limitations. Each city will be made its own charter under these laws, subject to existing charters as it may think best, and to regulate others according to its peculiar local wants, in the case of Chicago, Peoria, etc. The questions of deep importance to the public, upon which there has never been any legislation in this State. These are the construction of sewers by general law or special assessment; and the frame of the city council, consisting, originally, of one House or two. There are familiar decisions in other States to the effect that a street once graded, paved, and made a public highway at the cost of the adjoining property-holders generally, is a burden upon all subsequent repairs or repaving, to charge upon the whole people, for which the neighboring property is no more liable than any other in the city. This is a question now brought home to us practically. We have sewered the streets here and there, and proved at the expense and cost of the adjoining property, and which now require repaving. Who is to pay this expense? Shall it be assessed again specially on the adjoining property, or upon the city generally?

In the matter of sewers, the question is equally pressing. We have built 130 miles of sewers, raising the money by loans. The money applicable for that purpose has been all spent, and the authority to borrow any more is taken away. We want more sewers—three times as many miles as we now have would not meet the sanitary demands of the city. How are we to pay for them? By special assessment or general tax? Either course is more economical than the one which we have been following. But which shall we adopt? The existing debt for sewers, and the interest thereon, has to be paid by direct taxation. Shall we exempt property which has no direct benefit from existing sewers to pay taxes to pay that debt, and collect special taxes from the same property for the new sewers? or shall we make the construction of sewers a public work, and make the tax general, so long as there is a sewer to be constructed? In framing a general act which shall apply to Chicago, these two questions, hitherto wholly unprovided for, must be arranged, and perhaps the wisest and most satisfactory way would be to leave the determination of both to the action of the city government subject to the approval of the people. The city should be left free to adopt such course, on these and other kindred subjects, as time and experience may suggest.

The incorporation of cities under general laws establishes, or near it may be, municipal self-government. In framing the general law, the Legislature is restricted only by the constitution; and it ought to extend to the city all the liberty which is consistent with the power still to frame their own purely local government to suit themselves, subject, of course, to the fundamental principles of municipal law.

The time for holding municipal elections should be uniform throughout the State, and should not be the same as the time for holding State elections. The questions at issue in city elections are [illegible]

AMERICAN WIT AND ENGLISH RE-VIEWERS.

For some years the British quarterlies, or a class, have periodically fallen on their pages with jokes on American humor, and unhappy they are. Instead of analyzing them easily or charging how far their intended wit has to the critic and how far to the humorist, whose game he strung together in a careless profusion that sent a broad guffaw across the English countenance, from the Dover Channel to the lonely old Grampians of Scotland.

Two criticisms upon American humor in its present stage of development deserve notice. First, that our humor is, invariably, written in monologue; secondly, that in nearly all cases it borrows most of its "points" from the mimicry of slang dialects, or of what is known as bad spelling.

As the first charge it seems to admitted that there never has been one such genial humorous novel written in America. We have produced no Dickens or Thackeray. We have arranged in juxtaposition with each other numerous characters, each of which was invented with some distinct element of the humorous, the witty, or the pathetic. The English are much more fond than Americans of the character of Hosea Biglow, as drawn by Mr. Lowell; perhaps because they like better than we do to see our own most ridiculous side portrayed for the public gaze. Still, Lowell's humor is all spoken in dialogue, his constructive faculty falling short of the creation of more than one kind of humor, and that, though inimitable of its kind, by the single of verse, by [illegible] and by a travesty of the Yankee dialect. Yet, just as Americans get a travelled glimpse of Irish character through the medium of Thackeray's "Ballle on the Shannon Shore," so, doubtless, does the English reader pick up more than the American out of "Zekle Biglow's Account of Himself":

> "I've ben fired from most everything but by rum
> Ez a shot from a gun, an' thet kind o' release
> Is the only one I'm anxious to git on to."

Or of the effect of the gentle muse in his son, Hosea:

> "An' the Parson he took somethin' with his sermon this time,
> An' I hed to git right up an' tell 'em what 'twas;
> The old critters actooally seemed to like it,
> But I'll be skinned if I ever try it agin."

Or of the effect of the gentle muse in his son, Hosea:

> "Parson Wilbur sez he never heerd it in his life
> That th' Apostles rigged out in their swaller-tail coats
> An' stovepipe hats an' trousers to match,
> An' travelled round in front of Astor's A'n't
> To git some on 'em office, an' make 'em vote the Democratic ticket.
> Sez John P.
> Robinson he
> Sez he shall vote for Governor H."

No American humorist has been peddled out so generally to the Britishophile, and none has found such favor among them, as Mr. Lowell. Yet he never has enjoyed any such spontaneous popularity as invariably falls to the share of a writer like Artemus Ward, Mark Twain, John Phœnix, Hans Breitmann, or Bret Harte. Hans Breitmann is becoming known in Great Britain, and one can imagine that beefy John Bull will enjoy such a thrust at German transcendentalism in the following:

> "Ash dot Hegel say of his system, "Dat only von
> Vos capable to understand it, und he couldn't see,"
> Dot Jean Paul Richter, too,
> Who shpoke apout somedings vhen
> Nopody vas understandt,
> Vos not clear apout his meanin'."

Or the following description of the "position" Mr. Bismarck took to receive a delegation; who had called to ask him to run for Congress:

> Dere in his state cove sot mine Amerikan frient,
> Mit a pig pen before him,
> He vast cleanin dot so clean it do Kinder hurt
> Mine feelin's,
> Und Sefore long, on de table, vas—vhere was it?—
> Dwelf tishes of good lager, mit a Bomish cake
> Vor Sessert,
> Und Sefore I could say "Jack Robinson" he took mine leg,
> Vor I vas forgotten it!"

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> Vor I vas forgotten it!"

The English critics are asking a great deal when they complain that humor like that of Brellhardt is not dealt out in the form of a three-volume novel, with new characters in every chapter. It would have required a very great expansion even on the feats of Dickens and Thackeray to have brought all their characters on the stage speaking their several dialects in the Brellhardt style.

Brellhardt's rollicking returning from a foray among the rebels:

> Dot he hang mit me sank vhere de Brellhardt hat
> Vor dem!
> Vor dey vas so poor dey vas no more
> Vas dere!
> Vhen he vas come home, or who gafe him dem
> Vas dere!
> To get it dose shtuff would act just as a purge,
> But how dot day vill it relieve dem?
> Dey'll vish dey vas dead, und send down a vi-
> Sitation to me!

Dot Confederate moon vort mighty hard mit de
> Yoost
> If spirits of whose sendy be habits to do so.

Brellhardt's power of making the Dutch dialect tributary to the rapid and easy movement of the verse is well illustrated in the stanzas which tell of Brellhardt's death:

> Dot's vhere I vas ven I vas dead by it vas
> Dot I vas dead.

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Of our own importation, in new designs, at almost half the price of last year. All our
DRESS GOODS STOCK
Embracing goods of every quality and fabric, from low-priced up to rich, stylish materials at
Great Sacrifices.
PIANOS AND ORGANS.
KIMBALL'S
PIANO DEPOT,
83 Washington-st.
Pianos reduced, 50 Pianos, Organs and Melodeons at Wholesale and Retail for cash; Brinsmead, American Organs. In fact everything in the music line at reduced prices.
Pianos sold on time by parties about leaving the city. Second-hand Pianos and Organs taken in exchange.
I WILL OFFER FOR SALE
On Monday, Jan. 9, 1871,
One Second-hand 7-oct. Steinway, - - $275
One Second-hand 7-oct. Chickering, - - 325
One Second-hand 7-oct. Ridge, Davis & Co. 225
One Second-hand 7-oct. Lights & Co., - 250
One Second-hand 6½-oct. Light & Bradley, 250
One Second-hand 7-oct. Sterling, - - 215
Several Second-hand Organs, suitable for Churches, Lodges, &c., at reasonable rates.
W. W. KIMBALL,
83 WASHINGTON-ST.,
CHICAGO, ILL.

REVENUE FRAUDS.

Swindle: Defraud the Government of $250,000.

One of Geary, Snow, and Hall Brought to a Close.

Verdict of "Guilty" as to All Who were Tried.

AMUSEMENTS.

Review of the Week at Home and Abroad.

THE CHICAGO DRAMA.

The opposition season began on Wednesday evening of this week, upon which occasion a "new star" had been given. "Pen Owl Jr." was the bill announced for Wednesday evening. The remainder of the week, which will be over two hundred and fifty hours in length, will be filled with the usual "good old standards" of the histrionic art—a sufficient guarantee that the performances of these two prominent works, will be nothing long to be remembered, to our musical minds. The cause will be taken up by Miss. Agnes Leonard and Mr. Frank Aiken, who will appear in the "Lady of Lyons" and Richelieu; Miss Cary, (Octoroon) Mr. Bradford, (Lear) and Mr. S. D. Whitney, of Boston, (Hamlet, Richelieu and Othello). Well Hill, Lew Sothern, and Miss Vary (in their usual specialties), Mr. Bishop, Mr. Mary and the superintendent and Mr. Wheeler, of the present spring with New Faces—first and last, Mr. Brown is not to veil himself in double blind, but is represented as one of the best actors of the day, although the reputation which his claque is striving to build up for him is not borne out by his performances. Mr. Brown is a very respectable individual of her sort in this occasion. The entertainments at the Farwell Hall Rink, and the very exciting at the Farwell Hall Rink, and the very exciting at the Farwell Hall Rink, and the very exciting

METEOROLOGICAL.

War Department, Chief Signal Office,
Office Chief Signal Officer,
Washington, Jan. 7, 1871.

The following is the official bulletin of observations taken at the various stations named during the past twenty-four hours, commencing at 7:35 a. m. of the 75th meridian time, and ending at the same hour to-day. The first observation at the stations in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Dakota, and Wisconsin, is at 11 p. m. of the 90th meridian of Greenwich, or 6 p. m. of the 75th meridian of Washington. The second observation at the same stations is at 7:35 a. m. of the 75th meridian of Washington, or 1:35 p. m. of the 90th meridian of Greenwich. The third observation at the same stations is at 7:35 p. m. of the 75th meridian of Washington, or 1:35 a. m. of the 90th meridian of Greenwich. The first observation at the stations in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Canada, is at 7:35 a. m. of the 75th meridian of Washington, or 1:35 p. m. of the 90th meridian of Greenwich. The second observation at the same stations is at 7:35 p. m. of the 75th meridian of Washington, or 1:35 a. m. of the 90th meridian of Greenwich. The third observation at the same stations is at 7:35 a. m. of the 75th meridian of Washington, or 1:35 p. m. of the 90th meridian of Greenwich.

Place.	7:35 a. m.		1:35 p. m.		7:35 p. m.	
	Bar.	Ther.	Bar.	Ther.	Bar.	Ther.
Alpena	29.21	10	29.21	20	29.21	14
Atlanta	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Augusta	29.90	40	29.90	50	29.90	44
Baltimore	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Bismarck	29.50	0	29.50	10	29.50	4
Boston	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Buffalo	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Cairo	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Cape May	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Charleston	29.90	40	29.90	50	29.90	44
Chicago	29.80	30	29.80	40	29.80	34
Cincinnati	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Cleveland	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Corinth	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Corpus Christi	29.90	50	29.90	60	29.90	54
Detroit	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Dubuque	29.80	30	29.80	40	29.80	34
Duluth	29.50	0	29.50	10	29.50	4
Eastport	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Escanaba	29.21	10	29.21	20	29.21	14
Fort Gibson	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Fort Smith	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Galveston	29.90	50	29.90	60	29.90	54
Grand Haven	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Green Bay	29.50	0	29.50	10	29.50	4
Indianola	29.90	50	29.90	60	29.90	54
Jacksonville	29.90	40	29.90	50	29.90	44
Key West	29.90	60	29.90	70	29.90	64
La Crosse	29.50	0	29.50	10	29.50	4
Leavenworth	29.80	30	29.80	40	29.80	34
Little Rock	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Louisville	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Madison	29.80	30	29.80	40	29.80	34
Memphis	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Milwaukee	29.80	30	29.80	40	29.80	34
Mobile	29.90	40	29.90	50	29.90	44
Montgomery	29.90	40	29.90	50	29.90	44
Nashville	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
New Orleans	29.90	50	29.90	60	29.90	54
Newport	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
New York	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Omaha	29.50	0	29.50	10	29.50	4
Oswego	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Pensacola	29.90	40	29.90	50	29.90	44
Philadelphia	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Pittsburg	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Port Huron	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Portland	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Quebec	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Rondout	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Sandusky	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Savannah	29.90	40	29.90	50	29.90	44
Shreveport	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Smithville	29.90	50	29.90	60	29.90	54
St. Louis	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Toledo	29.98	30	29.98	40	29.98	34
Vicksburg	29.80	40	29.80	50	29.80	44
Wilmington	29.90	40	29.90	50	29.90	44

The following shows the state of the wind and weather at the same stations. The letters at the head of the columns indicate the direction of the wind, the following figures the velocity of the wind in miles per hour, and the words the state of the weather. Where no wind is mentioned, the wind is blowing less than five miles per hour. Where no weather is mentioned, the sky is not more than half covered.

Place.	7 a. m.	1 p. m.	7 p. m.
Alpena	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Atlanta	Clear	Clear	Clear
Augusta	Clear	Clear	Clear
Baltimore	Clear	Clear	Clear
Bismarck	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Boston	Clear	Clear	Clear
Buffalo	Clear	Clear	Clear
Cairo	Clear	Clear	Clear
Cape May	Clear	Clear	Clear
Charleston	Clear	Clear	Clear
Chicago	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Cincinnati	Clear	Clear	Clear
Cleveland	Clear	Clear	Clear
Corinth	Clear	Clear	Clear
Corpus Christi	Clear	Clear	Clear
Detroit	Clear	Clear	Clear
Dubuque	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Duluth	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Eastport	Clear	Clear	Clear
Escanaba	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Fort Gibson	Clear	Clear	Clear
Fort Smith	Clear	Clear	Clear
Galveston	Clear	Clear	Clear
Grand Haven	Clear	Clear	Clear
Green Bay	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Indianola	Clear	Clear	Clear
Jacksonville	Clear	Clear	Clear
Key West	Clear	Clear	Clear
La Crosse	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Leavenworth	Clear	Clear	Clear
Little Rock	Clear	Clear	Clear
Louisville	Clear	Clear	Clear
Madison	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Memphis	Clear	Clear	Clear
Milwaukee	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Mobile	Clear	Clear	Clear
Montgomery	Clear	Clear	Clear
Nashville	Clear	Clear	Clear
New Orleans	Clear	Clear	Clear
Newport	Clear	Clear	Clear
New York	Clear	Clear	Clear
Omaha	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy	W 21, Cl'dy
Oswego	Clear	Clear	Clear
Pensacola	Clear	Clear	Clear
Philadelphia	Clear	Clear	Clear
Pittsburg	Clear	Clear	Clear
Port Huron	Clear	Clear	Clear
Portland	Clear	Clear	Clear
Quebec	Clear	Clear	Clear
Rondout	Clear	Clear	Clear
Sandusky	Clear	Clear	Clear
Savannah	Clear	Clear	Clear
Shreveport	Clear	Clear	Clear
Smithville	Clear	Clear	Clear
St. Louis	Clear	Clear	Clear
Toledo	Clear	Clear	Clear
Vicksburg	Clear	Clear	Clear
Wilmington	Clear	Clear	Clear

BOATING MATTERS.

NEW SAFETY LAW.

A meeting of committees of the various shooting clubs of the State has been held at Springfield in relation to the passage of a game law by the Legislature, was held yesterday afternoon, at the rooms of the Prairie Shooting Club. The necessity of a law of the kind arose from the fact that the Legislature of two years ago enacted some amendments to the game laws of the State, and, from some unknown cause, left out the penalties in the law. The new committee has made up a code of laws which will remedy that fact. It classified certain provisions allowing single members from each county to act as game wardens, and has prepared a bill for legislation calling for the appointment of a Chief Game Warden for the whole State, to be appointed by the Governor, and to receive a salary of $1,500 per annum. The meeting was not large, but a large number of letters from gentlemen who could not attend were received, all of which approved the action of the committee. The bill will be presented to the Legislature at its next session.

Cod Liver Oil.

Hazard & Caswell's cod liver oil is the best.

At the Brothers' Orphans' Fair, in New York there was a cheap contrivance for a lemon squeezer, brought mysteriously into use, to be presented to the favorite lady. The "favorite" proved to be Miss Greeley. The result was as follows: McClellan, 1,742; Woodford, Tex., 1; Burnside, one; Grant, 450. The proceeds from the voting amounted to $100.

The number of persons who are out of employment, and even who have not been permitted to keep up the pretense of working, in the manufacturing districts of the different European countries is enormous. In no one country is the number of unemployed known, but in the aggregate it is probably not less than 2,000,000. Of these about one-half are in Great Britain, one-fourth in France, and the remainder in Germany, Austria, Belgium, and Switzerland. In Russia, Spain, and Italy, where most of the people live by agriculture, the number of unemployed is comparatively small.

THE POET IN HIS PRIME.

According to the New York Tribune, Bret Harte, the poet, has been lecturing in Boston, and with success. Next Tuesday, next New Year's Day, he will be in Providence, to whose people he is announced to lecture. Then he will be in Hartford, and so on through the East. Among the places he will visit is Jersey City, where, on the evening of the 17th inst., he will lecture in the Opera House. Tickets for the lecture are now on sale at the box office of the house. Mr. Harte is a man of fine appearance, and his lectures are said to be very interesting. He is a Bostonian by birth.

THE POET IN HIS PRIME.

Mr. Bret Harte, the author of "The Heathen Chinee," and other poems, is lecturing in the East. He is announced to lecture in Jersey City on the evening of the 17th inst. The Jersey City Journal says: "We have not heard that Mr. Harte has ever lectured before, but if he does as well as he has done in his poems, he will have a crowded house."

Physical Exhaustion.

The Gates of admission has greatly diminished the moral tendency of our country, who have made it the basis of their operations, business, pursuits and conversation. The two of these others have been prized; the women, comfort and luxury have been sought after, and the men, wealth and power. We do not greatly admire the social position we have acquired, but we have no remedy to propose. We simply admire the social position we have acquired, but we have no remedy to propose. We simply admire the social position we have acquired, but we have no remedy to propose. We simply

BERLIN.

German Delay and Prolongation of the War.

The Reichstag—The Prussian Legislature.

The Luxembourg Question.

Christmas Festivities.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

BERLIN, Dec. 18.

The Germans appear not to be following up their successes in the four days' battles at Metzing and Beaugency, at least not as rapidly or completely as was desired. There are scarcely any of the results that were expected. The King exercises it on the grounds of superior numbers on the part of the French, and contents himself, in his latest despatches, with praising the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg and the brave soldiers for what they have done, instead of promising, as before, that the whole Loire and North Armies would be destroyed, or, at least, prevented from reconcleuing their scattered regiments. The Germans have suffered terribly in these battles, sometimes whole regiments being almost entirely destroyed, as the latest accounts show. The later conduct of the war on their part is in unfavorable contrast with the rapidity with which they moved forward at first. They appear up to better purpose for fighting a good army than a poor one. It is true that they have been gaining victories all the time, and have scarcely ever met with reverses. But they are compelled to pay dearly for all their successes, and are in fact losing more than they gain. According to the latest official reports, the French loss in a great sortie in Luxemburg on the 30th of November was 2,000 men, and that in favor of Prussia under that German, and they ventured on that manner of resistance to the unprovoked aggression of Prussia. The French army was made to prevent, it is hard to tell whether the Prince of Prussia or the Duke of Luxembourg.

The Luxembourg question is making considerable agitation. Prussia, following the example of Napoleon, the Great, has, it is said, secretly purchased the right of way through the country, and is preparing to annex it. The Luxembourgers are making strong efforts to prevent the consummation of this project. They appeal to the treaty of 1867, and will be found to be very tenacious of their nationality. The pretext is similar to that of Alsace and Lorraine, for resisting the violation by Luxembourg herself of the stipulations of that treaty. The ultimate object of Prussia is, of course, to get possession of Luxembourg. It is a well understood plan on any thing approaching to success, and nearly half any other thought, that all these little States will become absorbed by the largest ones, as the minnow is by the pike, or the fly by the spider. Events seem to be hastening on the consummation of this policy. Belgium, Holland and other Scandinavian and Teutonic States, France is to take the lead, &c. According to the latest reports, the Grand Duke is a great sporting in Luxemburg on the subject of the annexation, and has offered 1,000 florins for every head of cattle that may be killed on all extra armaments for the purpose of annexation, so that, with their other attractions, the Luxembourgers will be very expensive neighbors. If there are to be any fireworks, pyrotechnic or other displays, these places are chosen for them; and one can almost see fire-works sent off somewhere. Of course there is a great deal of excitement about the matter, and the

WASHINGTON.

The San Domingo Matter to Come Up in Congress To-day.

Speculations as to the Probable Action of the House.

Stories Afloat Crediting Other Powers with a Desire to Purchase the Island.

The Interminable McGarrigan Case Again Brought to the Surface.

Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sun., 6.—It is impossible to predict what the action of the House will be to-morrow upon the San Domingo resolution. There is a great diversity of opinion as to whether a two-thirds majority can be obtained for the passage of the resolution in order to suspend the Senate resolution from the House's table and pass it. If the attempt is made to reach it by a majority vote, it will be met by a point of order that the resolution is a joint one, and a series of next-week bill which precedence, and their consideration to lead to vexatious delays. It is the intention of the friends of the resolution to oppose action on the whole subject at every stage, with the expectation that they can defeat it by a two-thirds vote at some time during the session of adjournment or territory, but they are not sanguine of success. The opinion is quite general in Congress that the Senate will not recede from its resolution, and that the House will be compelled to recede from its position. In the meantime, the Administration is making every effort to secure the passage of the resolution. Several members of the International Commission, which has visited the island, have been summoned to Washington to confer with the Administration and Congressional leaders. The documents in the case have been printed in pamphlet form, and are being distributed to members of Congress. Gen. Babcock, who has been a warm friend of the Dominican project from the start, is also here, and is using his influence with members. Gen. Grant has also been consulted, and has given his views to several members. The Administration is very anxious that the resolution should pass, and will use every effort to secure its passage. It is believed that the vote will be very close, and that the result will depend upon the action of a few members. Should the resolution be defeated, it is not probable that the Administration will make any further effort to secure the annexation of the island during the present session of Congress.

LATER SENATE QUESTIONS.

The first of a series of questions to be propounded to the Senate by the Democratic members of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, in connection with the Caldwell-Pomeroy case, was presented to the Senate this morning by Mr. Thurman, and was as follows: "Did the Senate, by the resolution of March 31, 1873, declare that the Senate would not receive any evidence in the case of Caldwell, or any other case, which was not presented to the Committee on Privileges and Elections?" Mr. Thurman said that he would not ask for action on the question to-day, but would call it up to-morrow.

THE WASHBURN-KELLOGG CASE

will be re-opened to-morrow before the House Committee on Judiciary. As the committee had closed the case and had begun the preparation of a report adverse to McGarrahan as to the proposal, the present action is exciting very general remark. Over a month ago, when the case was before the Committee determined to proceed in that new evidence has been obtained that a patent to McGarrahan was issued by Mr. Lincoln, and that documents to the Interior Department wholly different from such claim, and also the alleged patent had its source there. The Committee determined to investigate the matter, and to ascertain if the interest of the New Idria Company, of which the same committee at one time was a member, had not been improperly used. The Committee reopened the case, and examined a number of witnesses who resided mostly in the vicinity of the Senate and House and in Washington City. The testimony is voluminous, and it is said that there is not an unimportant witness.

Henry Rooney, a bookkeeper employed by the Interior Department, has been under examination for several days, and has given important testimony. The new Solicitor of the Interior Department, Mr. Smith, has been examining witnesses for the Government. The Agent of the Government, Mr. Stanbery, has been present, and has prosecuted the case on the part of the Government. The Committee will probably report to the House in favor of confirming the action of the Secretary and Commissioner of the Interior Department, and will probably recommend that the case be referred to the Court of Claims for adjudication.

THE McGARRIGAN CASE.

The Washington Republican says: "The case of McGarrahan against the Government, which has been before Congress for many years, and which has been the subject of a special message from President Grant, was to-day brought to a close before the House Committee on Judiciary. The case has been under investigation for several months, and the testimony is very voluminous. It is understood that the Committee will report adversely to the claim, and that the report will be made to the House in a few days. The case has been conducted on the part of the Government by Mr. Stanbery, and on the part of the claimant by Mr. Black. The claim is for the New Idria quicksilver mine, in California, which is now worked by the New Idria Company, and which is said to be very valuable. The claim is based upon a pretended grant from Governor Pico, of California, to Gen. Castro, and from Castro to McGarrahan. The Government contends that the grant is a forgery, and that the signature of Governor Pico is a forgery. The claimant contends that the signature is genuine. The case has been before Congress for many years, and has been the subject of a special message from President Grant. The Committee on Judiciary have had the matter under consideration for several months, and have examined a large number of witnesses, who have given their testimony under oath. The testimony is very voluminous, and it is understood that the Committee will report adversely to the claim